

Application No. 10/673,913

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-33, 38-39, and 41-47 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein and amend claims 34 and 37 to read as shown below.

1-33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) A medical laser system, comprising:

a laser device operable to generate laser radiation;

a light guide releasably coupled to the laser device via a mounting device and operable to guide the generated laser radiation;

a transponder coupled to the light guide and comprising a readable and writable data medium operable to store identity data and specific data, the specific data comprising information regarding each use of the light guide in conjunction with the laser device ~~the transponder being coupled to the light guide such that the transponder cannot be removed from the light guide without damaging the transponder;~~ and

a transmitter operable to contactlessly transmit the specific data to the transponder, ~~the specific data comprising information regarding each use of the light guide in conjunction with the laser device.~~

wherein the transponder is configured to store the transmitted specific data as a new data set and to apply encryption to the new data set, thus preventing any ~~already~~ stored specific data from being deleted, overwritten, or modified.

35. (Previously Presented) The medical laser system of claim 34, wherein the identity data comprises information about at least one of a manufacturer of the light guide, an end date of use of the light guide, a transmission of the light guide, a type designation of the light guide, a maximum transmission power of the light guide, and a fiber diameter of the light guide.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Application No. 10/673,913

36. (Previously Presented) The medical laser system of claim 34, wherein the information regarding each use of the light guide comprises information about at least one of a laser energy passed to the light guide, a number of treatments with the light guide, a date of the treatment with the light guide, and an identification of the laser device.

37. (Currently Amended) The light guide system of claim 34, ~~further comprising the mounting device;~~ wherein the transponder is coupled to the light guide by being coupled to the mounting device by at least one of encapsulation, welding, and gluing.

38. (Canceled)

39. (Canceled)

40. (Previously Presented) The medical laser system of claim 34, wherein the laser device is configured to generate laser radiation only in response to a determination that the stored specific data does not exceed a threshold.

41-47. (Canceled)

BEST AVAILABLE COPY